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# UTILITIES

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## MISSION

To support the Durham County mission through the operation and management of the County Sewer System.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Utilities Division of the County Engineering Office manages the 710-Water and Sewer agency. This Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the County's Triangle Wastewater Treatment Plant, the County's Wastewater Collection System, the coordination of new connections (customers), the County's Sewer System revenue collections, and the extension of public sewer lines to serve citizens with failing septic systems and to promote economic development.

The County Engineering Office is located at 120 East Parrish Street in Durham. Office hours are 8:30 - 5:00, Monday through Friday. The Utilities Division staff also uses voice mail to enable citizens to leave messages when the staff is not in the office.

The availability of wastewater treatment in the Triangle plant's service area (southeast Durham including the Parkwood and Bethesda neighborhoods and the Research Triangle Park) continues to promote development and reduce the number of problems associated with failing private septic systems. The development results in an increased tax base, while the reduction of direct discharges improves the condition of the environment.

The extension of public water and sewer lines is targeted at resolving existing problems with failing wells and septic systems, which benefits the citizens in the project areas, and improves the condition of the environment as described above. These extensions also allow some development that was not possible without the extensions and increases the property value due to the availability of public water and/or sewer, both of which increase the tax base.

## 2002-03 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed construction of Phase I Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Improvements.
- Began Construction of Phase II WWTP Improvements.

## 2003-04 OBJECTIVES

- Manage the operations contract with Woodard & Curran (daily).
- Resolve operational and contractual issues (as necessary).
- Prepare a monthly report to update County Manager (Monthly).
- Process and approve payments for operations (weekly).
- Receive and track revenues received for operations (weekly).
- Meet with developers to discuss potential connections and extensions (as necessary).
- Meet with potential customers to discuss connections and fees (as necessary).
- Attend Environmental Affairs Board meetings (monthly).
- Review and approve plans submitted for line extensions (weekly as received).
- Review and approve plans submitted for connections (weekly as received).
- Calculate fees for new connections (weekly as received).
- Inspect line extension projects (daily as necessary).
- Inspect new connections (daily as necessary).
- Continue construction of Phase II WWTP Improvements.
- Continue Planning and Design of Phase III Improvements.

## 2003-04 Highlights/Significant Changes

Complete the evaluation of major discrepancies in the County's Collection System.